

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-07 SAJ-01 DHA-02 /068 W

-----270512Z 057855 /11

R 261816Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5078

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CSCE, GW

SUBJECT: CSCE: OPPOSITION DEMANDS FRG DO MORE ON
IMPLEMENTATION

1. IN THE JANUARY 19 BUNDESTAG DEBATE ON THE FOREIGN

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POLICY ASPECTS OF THE GOVERNMENT DECLARATION, THE CDU/
CSU OPPOSITION ARGUED THAT THE FRG WAS NOT DOING ENOUGH
TO INSIST UPON EASTERN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS
OF THE FINAL ACT, PARTICULARLY REGARDING BASKET III.

THE OPPOSITION, WHICH RECOMMENDED IN JULY 1975 THAT THE
CHANCELLOR FOREGO SIGNING THE FINAL ACT AT HELSINKI, NOW
AT LEAST GRUDGINGLY ACCEPTS THE ACCORDS WITH THE ARGUMENT

THAT, ONCE SIGNED, THEY ARE BINDING ON DEMOCRATIC PARTIES.

2. CDU/CSU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY GROUP LEADER HELMUT KOHL ASKED THE CHANCELLOR TO EXPLAIN WHERE THE FRG INITIATIVES WERE IN THE GOVERNMENT DECLARATION TO IMPLEMENT THE FINAL ACT "IN THE REALITY OF THE LIFE OF THE GERMAN NATION." KOHL CHARGED THAT IT WAS NOT ENOUGH MERELY TO NOTE VIOLATIONS OF THE FINAL ACT AND THEN TO SWEAR BY THE "SPIRIT OF HELSINKI."

3. CDU CSCE EXPERT MERTES STATED THAT THE OPPOSITION SHARED THE FRG'S INTERPRETATION OF THE FINAL ACT TEXT AT THE TIME OF THE 1975 SUMMIT, BUT FEARED THAT EASTERN INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION OF ITS PROVISIONS WOULD BE OPPOSED TO GERMAN INTERESTS. MERTES EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE EASTERN INTERPRETATIONS WOULD BE ACCEPTED IN THE WEST AND THAT NEW TENSIONS WOULD ARISE FROM THE CONFLICTING INTERPRETATIONS, A FEAR WHICH HE BELIEVED HAD BEEN CONFIRMED.

4. CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT SAID THAT HE PERCEIVED THE UNREST IN EASTERN EUROPE ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES AS A "POSITIVE EFFECT" OF BASKET III. HE NOTED THAT HELSINKI WAS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW PHASE IN DETENTE POLICY AND THAT THOSE WHO WERE DISAPPOINTED TODAY WERE THOSE WHO HAD ADVISED THE FRG NOT TO UNDERTAKE THE NEW BEGINNING.

5. COMMENT: THE GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION HAVE NOT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACHIEVED A BIPARTISAN CONSENSUS ON FOREIGN POLICY, AND THAT PORTION OF THE JAN. 19 DEBATE WHICH DEALT WITH CSCE MERELY CONFIRMED THAT BOTH SIDES TALK PAST RATHER THAN WITH ONE ANOTHER. CSCE AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL ACT WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE FRG'S EASTERN POLICY IS PERCEIVED BY THE OPPOSITION AS ONE MORE ISSUE WITH WHICH TO BELABOR A BELEAGUERED COALITION GOVERNMENT.

WE EXPECT THE OPPOSITION WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS THE FRG TO TAKE A FORTHRIGHT AND AGGRESSIVE STANCE VIS-A-VIS THE EAST AT BELGRADE. THE CDU/CSU REJECTS THE SPD LINE, AS ARTICULATED BY WILLY BRANDT, THAT ACCUSATORY SPEECHES AT BELGRADE WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL. ANY PERCEIVED SOFTNESS BY THE FRG ON THE FAILURE OF THE EAST TO IMPLEMENT THE FINAL ACT WILL PROVIDE GRIST FOR OPPOSITION ATTACKS. ACCORDINGLY, THE FRG WILL HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL INTEREST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A UNIFIED WESTERN APPROACH TO BELGRADE. GIVEN THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL SCENE, WE EXPECT THE FRG TO SUPPORT EVEN MORE STRONGLY THE U.S. EMPHASIS ON

IMPLEMENTATION IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO ARGUE CONVINCINGLY
AT HOME THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS TRIED TO OBTAIN THE
MAXIMUM POSSIBLE BENEFITS FROM THE FINAL ACT FOR ALL
GERMANS THROUGHOUT EUROPE.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEBATES, TREATY COMPLIANCE, POLICIES, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, OPPOSITION PARTIES, COLLECTIVE SECURITY AGREEMENTS, BASKET III
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN01539
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770029-0223
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770118/aaaaaphf.tel
Line Count: 121
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2f3708d1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3500791
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CSCE: OPPOSITION DEMANDS FRG DO MORE ON IMPLEMENTATION
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, GE, CSCE, CDU/CSU, (KOHL, HELMUT), (SCHMIDT, HELMUT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2f3708d1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009